

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND 1322 PATTERSON AVENUE, SE, SUITE 1000 WASHINGTON NAVY YARD, DC 20374-5065

> 5720 Ser BD*b50* **AUG 1 9 2019**

Ms. Jennifer Thompson Darger, Errante, Yavitz & Blau, LLP 116 East 27<sup>th</sup> Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10016

Dear Ms. Thompson,

Subj: YOUR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA); CASE NUMBER DON-NAVY-2019-009437

We are writing to respond to your request for the following:

- 1. Any and all records relating to construction, renovations, alterations and/or repairs, including but not limited to all: 1) permit applications; 2) permits; 3) building records; 4) site plans; 5) blueprints; 6) contractor/subcontractor information; 7) planning records; 8) specifications; 9) inspections and 10) documents listing materials used, for the following locations during the following years:
  - a. Great Lakes, IL from 1958 to 1962;
  - b. Naval Base, Orange, TX from 1958 to 1962;
  - c. USS Lloyd Thomas from February 1960 to January 1962;
  - d. Brooklyn Navy Yard, Brooklyn, NY from February 1960 to January 1962.
  - 2. Any and all records relating to asbestos piping in or at the above-referenced premises;
- Any and all records relating to the abatement of asbestos-containing materials and products in or at the above-referenced premises;
- 4. Any and all records relating to the presence, application, or installation of asbestos-containing materials and products in or at the above-referenced premises;
- Any and all records of complaints and/or claims related to asbestos in or at the above- referenced premises;
- 6. Any records relating to the sellers, manufacturers, or suppliers of asbestos-containing materials and products used in connection with the above-referenced premises.

After a search of our files, it has been determined that NAVFAC has no records responsive to your request. Naval Station Training Center Great Lakes, IL; Naval Base Orange, TX; and Brooklyn Navy Yard, NY, were installations maintained by NAVFAC; however, we do not have any records for the date ranges you are requesting. Asbestos-related records and most construction/build records are temporary records with a 30-year retention requirement, and therefore are destroyed.

As-built drawings and construction/building records are permanent records that are sent to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Once sent to NARA, NAVFAC is no longer the owner

of the record; NARA owns it as a permanent record. We encourage you to visit the website or contact the National Archives to research their holdings and request copies of records at the following links: https://www.archives.gov/research/order.

The Naval Sea Systems Command, 1333 Isaac Hull Avenue, SE, Washington Navy Yard, DC 20376, may hold the USS Lloyd Thomas (Feb 1960 – Jan 1962) records. We have forwarded your request to that office for action and direct response to you.

If you consider this to be an adverse determination, you may appeal. Since you have created an account in FOIAonline, you may submit an appeal directly within the web-based system. To do this, you would log in to your account, retrieve your original request, and then click on the "Create Appeal" tab in the left-hand column. The basic information from your request will be duplicated for you, and then you can type in the basis of your appeal. If you prefer to use regular mail, you may submit an appeal to:

The Department of the Navy
Office of the General Counsel (ATTN: FOIA APPEALS)
1000 Navy Pentagon, Room 5A532
Washington, DC 20350-1000

Your appeal, if any, must be postmarked within 90 calendar days from the date of this letter and should include a copy of your initial request, a copy of this letter, and a statement indicating why you believe your appeal should be granted. For any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request, you have the right to contact the Department of the Navy FOIA Public Liaison, Mr. Christopher Julka, at christopher a julka@navy.mil or (703) 697-0031. Additionally, you have the right to contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, MD 20740-01, ogis@nara.gov; (202) 741-5770; toll free at (877) 684-6448; or facsimile at (202) 741-5769.

Further questions regarding the action this office has taken may be directed to Abby Machalec, abby machalec@navy.mil. Please refer to your FOIA case number DON-NAVY-2019-009437 whenever corresponding about this request.

Sincerely

POLLOCK

Chief Management Officer

Copy to: NAVFAC (00C)